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FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO

TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2095

INFO RUEHGV/USMISSION GENEVA IMMEDIATE 0434

RUCNDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE 0286

C O N F I D E N T I A L CAIRO 000572

SIPDIS

IO/RHS FOR OSTERMEIER

GENEVA FOR CASSAYRE

E.O. 12958: DECL: 04/02/2029

TAGS: [PHUM](#) [PREL](#) [UN](#) [EG](#)

SUBJECT: DEMARCHE DELIVERED: U.S. CANDIDACY FOR UN HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL

REF: STATE 31175

Classified By: DCM Matt Tueller for reason 1.4 (b).

¶1. (C) On April 2, DCM informed MFA Spokesman and Senior Advisor to the Foreign Minister Hossam Zaki that the U.S. is seeking election to the UN Human Rights Council (UNHRC), and requested the GOE's vote in May (reftel). DCM underscored that the U.S. believes it can do more to advance human rights and improve the UNHRC as a fully engaged member of the council. Zaki took the points on board, but did not offer a substantive response.

¶2. (C) On April 1, we also delivered reftel demarche to MFA Deputy Director for Human Rights Omar Shalaby Shalaby who welcomed the U.S. decision, and said that during recent internal MFA discussions on UNHRC candidates, GOE officials saw the possibility of a U.S. candidacy as "positive." Shalaby said the GOE had not yet decided how to vote, but would review the U.S. request for support. He noted the Foreign Minister would begin internal MFA discussions on the issue April 2. Speaking personally, Shalaby told us he expected that increased U.S. engagement with the UNHRC would be productive.

SCOBAY